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"Your Prescription Drug Store"

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Elba, Alabama  
January 13, 1955

Dear Editor:

We had quite a woods fire out beyond my place this afternoon on the Samson highway. The fire must have got started soon after 10:00 a.m. I imagine there must have been a considerable amount of pine timber land burned over on the east side of the Samson road about a quarter mile north of Buck's Mill Creek. I wouldn't have any idea how to estimate the dollars and cents damage that was done to the young pine trees on this tract.

My purpose in writing you this is that I was very much impressed with the manner in which our Department of Conservation fire-fighting crews responded to a woods-fire alarm and set to work getting it under control. There are probably quite a few people in our county who don't even know we have crews on the lookout for forest fires. These young men have certain high hills picked out about over the county in wooded areas for use as lookout posts. In dry and windy weather they spend considerable time on these lookout posts watching for tell-tale signs of smoke.

You have probably seen their Ford tractors, equipped with cat-terpillar treads, that they keep mounted on trucks at all times. The body of the truck has a ramp that lets down automatically so that the tractor may roll on or off the truck in a matter of seconds.

The tractor pulls a broad, shallow, ditching plow and is able to scot along through the woods at about 10 to 15 miles per hour cutting a ditch about two feet or more across that stops any ordinary woods fire.

The first snapshot enclosed shows only a few doomed pine trees and smoke. Fire was there but not distinguishable because of the smoke. At the time I arrived on the scene and snapped this picture, Robert Smith and his crew of fire fighters with their tractor, had already got there and were making every effort to encircle the fire area with a ditch. You may note the wide, shallow ditch across the lower part of the photo. You can't see Robert and the others as they are on the other side of the fire having a rough time against a strong north wind that was driving the fire right toward them.

The other snapshot shows Charles Tabbot mounting the tractor seat. C. L. Wambles in the center with a wrench in his hand adjusting the plow and Charles Davis at the rear of the plow with some fire-fighting equipment. This crew got there soon after 1:00 and I managed to snap this picture as they were starting out with their ditcher to meet with Robert and his crew.

This was interesting to me as I knew these men were prepared to fight woods fires but had no idea how well they were trained. The various effective types of fire-fighting implements they used and the teamwork they displayed in getting this fire under control.

It strikes me that if more people knew the good these young men are doing—they respond to a forest fire with the same dispatch that the city fire department does here in town—and more interest shown to their work, as well as more publicity given to same that we could get a few more fire towers built about the county.

You are welcome to these pictures and to any part of this letter you might think would be interesting to the people. These men deserve the publicity. With best wishes, I am, Yours sincerely,  
J. H. English.

## Editorials

### Legislature Does Right Thing the Wrong Way

Lots of criticism was leveled at the State Legislature last week, especially the House of Representatives, for the way in which they voted themselves an increase in pay. In the Senate after an acrimonious debate, the lawmakers balloted in favor of \$30-a-day pay for themselves. It was a record vote with each Senator having the fortitude of telling his constituents where he stood on the matter.

The House worked things differently. After closing off debate a voice vote was pushed through in which those in favor of the pay raise definitely made more noise than those against it.

We asked Representative Bill Stokes how he voted on the matter and he said he abstained from balloting. Last year he introduced a bill calling for an annual salary for legislators but it got nowhere. This was a sound bill but received no backing, according to Stokes.

As it now stands Alabama is paying its lawmakers \$10 per day salary, \$20 for expenses, 10c per mile travel expenses, sessions limited to a maximum of 96 legislative days. However, legislators customarily meet only two legislative days per week for 18 weeks. They are paid on the basis of calendar days, not legislative days. Thus, their minimum income for a regular biennial session will now be \$3,780 (\$210 per week multiplied by 18 calendar weeks). With special sessions in the offing, their pay could exceed \$5,000 this year.

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You are welcome to these pictures and to any part of this letter you might think would be interesting to the people. These men deserve the publicity. With best wishes, I am, Yours sincerely,  
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Other controversial questions sure to be broached are rewriting the criminal code, repealing the remnant poll tax and the problem of segregation.

No man gets everything he wants and Governor Folsom in his dealings with the legislature which has an avowed friendliness towards him won't get his program through.

**Ozark Knows Its Many Improvements Are Right**  
Last week a publicity release was put out which featured the many improvements made by the City of Ozark since World War II. It told how the town of 8,000 had put in a sewage disposal plant, new hospital, 100 units of public housing, many improvements and other public works projects costing over \$2½ million. Other improvements included a 700-gallon per minute water well, a 250,000 gallon water tank, about eight and one-half miles of water mains, the same amount of sewer lines and seven miles of streets and gutters.

Things were at low ebb in Ozark last July when Camp Rucker closed. Then a surgical manufacturer located there and Camp Rucker responded to give the economical life of the town a shot in the arm that few cities receive. Nevertheless, it looks like they have done real well with the bonanza that has dropped on them.

By that it is meant that the competent help of a trained engineering firm was obtained to aid them with their construction

**Basketball Team Has No Reason for Overconfidence**  
The Elba High School eagles ran their string of consecutive victories to nine when they punched out a 57-48 victory over Dothan Friday night. By dumping the Houston County Tigers, the local quintet marked themselves as the team to beat in the Second District Tournament in March.

However, there are plenty of teams around capable of defeating Elba on any given night. That nine point margin over Dothan shows that the game was not too much a one-sided affair. Then an overtime victory over Kinross easily could have been a one point win for the Bulldogs without the extra period.

Besides these two powers who have fallen before the Elba eagles, there are Bu-falla and Abbeville. Unbeaten in eight outings this season, Bu-falla invades the local gym Jan. 28 in what promises to be a basketball headliner. Abbeville has hit over

the state legislature most certainly deserves a raise in pay. The manner in which the house voted it was wrong. It should be on the record how each man stood on the issue. Probably, it would be very interesting for a capital reporter to interview each member of the House of Representatives to find out how he voted. We'll wager more abstained or voted against it than voted for it when it comes to putting the vote on the record.

About two-thirds of the states now pay their legislators on an annual basis. That is the way to do it. It would keep legislative sessions as short as possible and at the same time give year round recompense to the representative and senator who have to make several trips a month to Montgomery with their constituents who need help in their dealings with the state officials.

Representative Stokes and former State Senator H. B. Larkins were not polled on the matter but it is safe to say that they average two trips a month to Montgomery. Usually persons they take up expects them to furnish the car and gasoline.

A fair pay for these elected officials would be in the neighborhood of \$150 to \$200 per month for as long as they are in office. During days the legislature is in session, a mileage allowance should be allowed on the basis of 10c per mile. No other expense account would be necessary. This would put the matter of legislative salaries on a sound business basis.

**Coffee County's Native Son to Have Turbulent Term**  
Monday a native son of Coffee County, Jim Folsom, was sworn in for his second term as governor of the state of Alabama. On the whole newspapers replaced their bitter attacks of the political campaign with somewhat begrudging accounts of his great political personality.

They are not exactly sweet-talking about him but recognizing the power of the man who won a majority of the votes in a field of seven candidates without the support of any major newspaper in the state. As far as we know The Elba Clipper and its other weekly newspapers were all the supporters he had among Alabama publishers. In the face of such opposition it takes a strong political personality to win without full credit for his feat.

Acquaintance and opposition which faced Governor Folsom during the primaries will be faced again when he gets rolling on his legislative program. Some fuss will be kicked up over the rural road program because it is going to call for new taxes. Things will get warmer when increasing the old age pension hits the legislature because this money has to come from somewhere.

A real dog fight will get underway when the question of a constitutional convention comes up.

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Examining the Birmingham News trophy awarded the Elba Elpers for being the best Class AA Team in the First and Second All-State Districts are (l to r) Line Coach Charles McCrory, Charles Clark (co-capt for 1954), Tommie Frazier (1954 capt.), Bobby Folsom (1954 co-capt.), Martin Dyess (1955 capt.) and Coach Pauline Gaither. (Photo courtesy of the Birmingham News)

**BIRTHS**  
Births reported in Coffee County during the month of December, 1954.  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack H. Alberson, girl, Enterprise.  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Adkinson, boy, Elba, Rt. 3.  
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Bowman, girl, Arion, Rt. 1.  
Mr. & Mrs. George M. Brown, girl, Enterprise.  
Mr. & Mrs. Marion P. Bryant, boy, Daleville, Rt. 1.  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Barnes, girl, Chancellor, Rt. 1.  
Mr. & Mrs. James C. Baston, girl, Enterprise.  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel F. Carmichael, boy, Enterprise.  
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse B. Carnley, boy, Chancellor, Rt. 1.  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Day, girl, Jack, Rt. 1.  
Mr. & Mrs. Quille R. Floyd, girl, Kingston, Rt. 1.  
Mr. & Mrs. Albert B. Grimes, girl, Enterprise.  
Mr. & Mrs. James C. Helms, boy, Enterprise.  
Mr. & Mrs. Ruben H. Hughes, girl, Geneva.  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold L. Huneycutt, girl, Enterprise.  
Mr. & Mrs. Leiman W. Herring, girl, Enterprise, Rt. 1.  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald R. Harrison, girl, Elba, Rt. 4.

**Smoke Says:**  
TO MAKE THE EARTH A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN, WE ARE GOING TO STOP SMOKING.  
Acres of forests are annually destroyed by fire—purely by carelessness!

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ADMISSION: 40c  
Beginning Saturday, Sept. 26, Show Starts at 6:30  
For the Latest and Best Pictures Visit Dixie Land  
Largest Screen in this area.

Weds, Jan. 19-20  
**Along Came Jones**  
Gary Cooper  
Loretta Young  
Fri-Sat, Jan. 21-22  
**SALOME,**  
Where She Danced  
Rod Cameron  
Yvonne DeCarlo  
**HIT the ROAD**  
Dead End Kdis

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Elba High School Seniors who played their last prep football game in the Peanut Bowl Thanksgiving Day were (l to r): front row, Bill Brantley, Omega Harris and Leon Brantley; back row, Roland Powell, Jimmy Reeves, Jerry Brown and Charles Boutwell. (Photo Courtesy Birmingham News)

**Saturday Classes at Troy Announced**  
Dean G. R. Boyd of Troy State Teachers College, has announced the schedule for the spring series of Saturday classes to start on Jan. 22. Registration will be held on this date at 9 A. M. and 10:30 A. M.  
Proposed Saturday classes in the morning session include: any course in English desired by 10 or more students; Social Psychology 442, which may be substituted.  
Enterprise.  
Bonnie & Mae Brooks, boy, New Brockton, Rt. 1.  
Joeie & Cleve Carlton, boy, Daleville, Rt. 1.  
David & Lucy Hobdy, boy, Chancellor, Rt. 2.  
Eugene & Mary Johnson, girl, Enterprise, Rt. 2.  
Joseph & Bunner Jackson, boy, Enterprise.  
Jimmie & Frances McLenon, boy, Enterprise.  
Thomas & Muri Menney, girl, Elba, Rt. 5.  
Frank & Ceola Perryman, girl, Enterprise.  
Jimmie & Johnnie Quiskey, boy, Enterprise.  
Henry & Noble Rayburn, boy, g.f., Coffee Springs, Rt. 1.  
J. W. & Louise Whaley, boy, Tennille, Rt. 1.

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**CONFEDERATE PENSIONERS COFFEE COUNTY**  
Mrs. Malissie Bowers, Rt. 1, Elba, Alabama; Mrs. Annie De-nach, Rt. 1, Box 89, Crestview, Fla.; Mrs. Vickie Holens, 607 Pledger St., Enterprise, Alabama; Mrs. V. V. Snell, Enterprise, Ala. 34w chg to Com Ct

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● TAFFETAS and COTTONS ● NEW FASHIONS  
● SIZES 9-15; 10-20; 16½-24½; 46-52  
Reg. \$8.95 and \$9.95 Reg. \$14.95 to \$16.95  
● HEAVY RIB FAILLES ● 1 and 2-P.C. STYLES  
● RUSTLING TAFFETAS ● NEW FASHIONS  
● JEWELLED ACCENTS ● SEASON'S TOP COLORS  
● ALL SIZES

**LADIES' SPORTSWEAR REDUCED!**  
Reg. to \$3.99 Ladies' SKIRTS  
● WOOL PLAIDS ● 2.66  
● GABARDINES ● TAFFETAS  
● ASSORTED COLORS

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Reg. to \$39.95  
● FLEECES, ● POODLES  
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**Piece Goods & Domestics REDUCED!**  
PIECE GOODS  
● YARN DYED PERCALES  
● ALL 24" WIDE PRINTS AND PATTERNS  
PIECE GOODS  
● YARN DYED WOOLEN PLAIDS  
● COLORFUL WOVEN SUITING  
● 36" to 44" WIDTHS  
VALUES TO 29c  
"LL" SHEETING  
● STURDY  
● UNBLEACHED  
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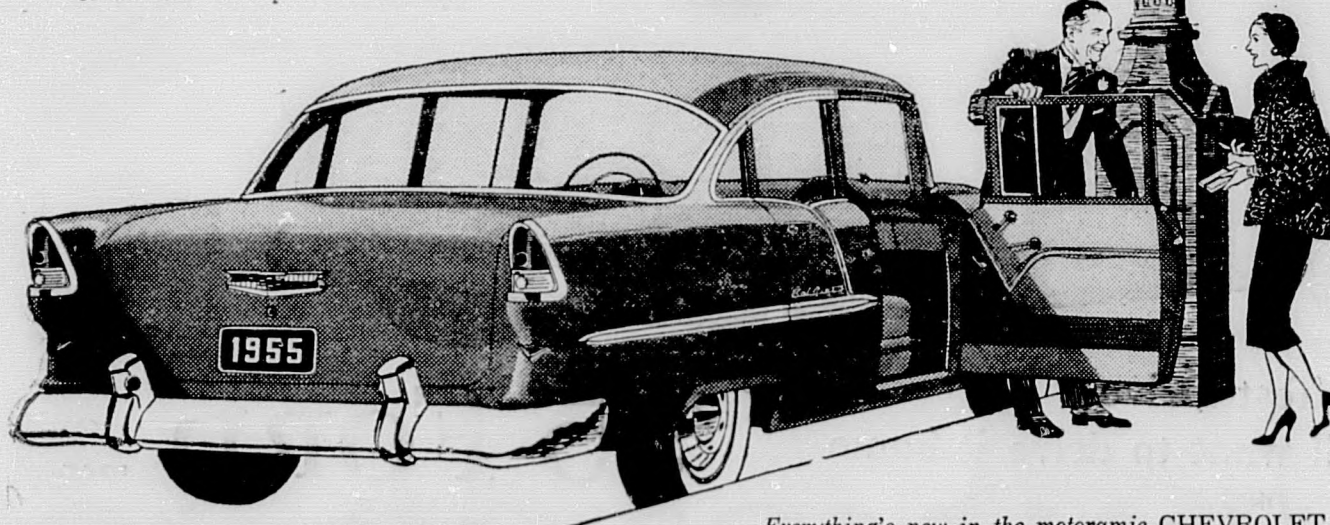
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REG. TO \$3.99 BOYS' DRESS PANTS \$2.88  
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● Warm Cardigans  
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GROUP OF BOYS' FLANNEL SPORT SHIRTS \$1.22  
● Washable, Sanitized  
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Ladies' Shoes Reduced!  
Group No. 1  
● Flats and Wedges  
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● Suedes and Smooth Leathers  
● Wide Selection of Styles  
\$2.44

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The styling spotlight blazes down on a low-cost car this year—for the Motorama Chevrolet is stealing the show from the high-priced cars with its subtle sweep of line, the brilliant sophistication of its European-type grille, the bold rake of its deep-curved windshield.  
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